

**CLAIMS**

1. A method for activating a non-SMS device connectable to an IP-based network, comprising the steps of:  
  
    sending an activation message to said non-SMS device over an IP-based messaging protocol.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said activation message includes an SIA message identifier.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein said activation message further includes an initiation command that initiates an action by said non-SMS device.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein said IP-based messaging protocol comprises a chat protocol.
5. The method of claim 3, wherein said action initiated by said initiation command comprises the issuance of an alert by said non-SMS device.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein said alert comprises an indication that there is new email available for download over said IP-based network.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein said action initiated by said initiation command comprises the launching of a program on said non-SMS device to download email via said IP-based network.

8. A system for activating a non-SMS device connectable to an IP-based network, comprising:

means for sending an activation message to said non-SMS device over an IP-based messaging protocol.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein said activation message includes an SIA message identifier.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein said activation message further includes an initiation command that initiates an action by said non-SMS device.

11. The system of claim 9, wherein said IP-based messaging protocol comprises a chat protocol.

12. The system of claim 10, wherein said action initiated by said initiation command comprises the issuance of an alert by said non-SMS device.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein said alert comprises an indication that there is new email available for download over said IP-based network.

14. The system of claim 10, wherein said action initiated by said initiation command comprises the launching of a program on said non-SMS device to download email via said IP-based network.

15. A computer program product for activating a non-SMS device connectable to an IP-based network, the computer program product comprising a computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code embodied in the medium, the computer-readable program code comprising:

computer-readable program code that sends an activation message to said non-SMS device over an IP-based messaging protocol.

16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said activation message includes an SIA message identifier.

17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein said activation message further includes an initiation command that initiates an action by said non-SMS device.

18. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein said IP-based messaging protocol comprises a chat protocol.

19. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein said action initiated by said initiation command comprises the issuance of an alert by said non-SMS device.

20. The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said alert comprises an indication that there is new email available for download over said IP-based network.

21. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein said action initiated by said initiation command comprises the launching of a program on said non-SMS device to download email via said IP-based network.

22. A method of activating a chat enabled, non-SMS device, comprising the configuring of said non-SMS device to:

identify SIA chat messages;

block display of an SIA chat message upon receipt; and

execute instructions contained in said SIA chat message to activate said non-SMS device.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein said activation of said non-SMS device comprises the performance of an action on said non-SMS device.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said action comprises the issuing of an alert indicating the receipt of an email message by the server initiating said SIA.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein said action comprises the execution of a program to automatically connect said non-SMS device to the server initiating the SIA and download email newly received by said server.

26. A method of activating a chat enabled, non-SMS device via an SIA chat message, comprising the steps of:

configuring said non-SMS device to:

identify SIA chat messages; and

execute instructions contained in said SIA chat message to activate said non-SMS device; and

activating said non-SMS device by sending an SIA chat message to said non-SMS device, said SIA chat message including instructions to activate said non-SMS device.